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Department of State

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-06
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 /088 W

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R 220556Z OCT 79
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5890

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BEIJING

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL KARCHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL PESHAWAR POUCH

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 11979

MILITARY ADDEES FOR POLADS

E.O. 12065: RDS-1 10/21/95 (KING, B) OR-M

TAGS: PEPR MILI PK CH

SUBJECT: (U) DEPUTY CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF OF CHINESE ARMY VISITS
PAKISTAN

1. (U) ZHANG CAIQIAN, DEPUTY CGS OF THE PEOPLES LIBERATION
ARMY (PLA) ARRIVED IN ISLAMABAD OCT 20 LEADING A "MILITARY
GOODWILL DELEGATION" WHICH WILL STAY IN PAKISTAN FOR TEN DAYS.

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ZHANG'S WIFE, BO TAO, AND ABOUT A DOZEN CHINESE MILITARY

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PERSONNEL MAKE UP THE DELEGATION WHICH REPORTEDLY WILL TOUR PAKISTANI MILITARY FACILITIES IN KARACHI, LAHORE, PESHAWAR, QUETTA, MULTAN, SARGHODA, AND TAXILA DURING THE VISIT.

2. (U) THE DELEGATION RECEIVED A WARM WELCOME FROM THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE GOP ON ARRIVAL AT THE ISLAMABAD AIRPORT. IN COMPANY WITH THE OTHER CHIEFS OF SERVICE, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF ZIA UL-HAQ PERSONALLY GREETED THE VISITORS AND ESCORTED THEM TO THE ISLAMABAD HOLIDAY INN. ZIA HOSTED LARGE DINNER EVENING OF 21ST IN HONOR OF CHINESE. CHARGE' WAS AMONG THE GUESTS.

3. (C) COMMENT: THE CHINESE DCM TIEN-TING TOLD CHARGE' OCT 20 THAT THE VISIT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF AND HIS ENTOURAGE IS OF "NO CONSEQUENCE" IN TERMS OF SUBSTANCE. TIEN SAID THE VISIT WAS LAID ON, AT PAK URGING, AS CHINESE GESTURE IN RESPONSE TO A SERIES OF HIGH-LEVEL PAKISTANI MILITARY VISITS TO THE PRC--THE LATEST OF WHICH WAS THE VISIT OF THE PAKISTANI AIR FORCE CHIEF, AIR MARSHAL MOHAMMED ANWAR SHAMIN, WHO RETURNED FROM BEIJING ON 19 OCTOBER.

4. (C) NOTWITHSTANDING TIEN'S DISCLAIMER OF SUBSTANCE TO THE VISIT, IT WILL BE WIDELY SEEN BY PAKISTANIS AND REGIONAL OBSERVERS AS A SHOW-OF-SUPPORT AT A CRUCIAL TIME.
HUMMEL

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